

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 13-19, and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent Number 6,493,751 to Tate et al. (hereinafter Tate) in view of United States Patent Number 6,961,762 to Yeap et al. (hereinafter Yeap) and United States Patent Number 6,961,762 to Oh-Yang et al. (hereinafter (Oh-Yang)).

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 13-19, and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tate in view of Yeap and Oh-Yang. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, and 22 include the limitation “...**disabling all of the plurality of communication adapters; and enabling said communication adapter specified by the user** if it is determined that said communication adapter specified by the user is available, wherein **other communication adapters remain disabled to reduce power consumption...**” Claim 1. See also claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, and 22. The Examiner asserts that Yeap’s disclosure of causing a system to sleep for three seconds before checking link quality teaches other communication adapters remaining disabled. Yeap, col. 7, lines 41-43. Applicants respectfully disagree. In Yeap, all communication adapters are re-enabled. No communication adapter remains disabled as claimed by the present invention, but all are again enabled in order to try to establish another connection. Yeap, col. 7, lines 43-44. Tate also does not disclose disabling all of the plurality of communication adapters.

The Examiner further cites Oh-Yang's disclosure of "...using the Drag & Sleep control circuit 20 to enable the high speed Ethernet controller to get into sleep state or resume normal state in accordance with the connector unit's connecting status, and to temporarily turn off, in the sleep state, the operation of unnecessary devices in the high speed Ethernet PC card 10, thereby, to attain the objective of energy saving..." as teaching other communication adapters remaining disabled to reduce power consumption as claimed by the present invention. See Oh-Yang, col. 5, lines 57-65. The drag and sleep control circuit detects that a PC card is disconnected from a network. Oh-Yang, col. 1, lines 59-64. Oh-Yang teaches that Ethernet PC cards (communication adapters) are only disabled when disconnected from a network, rather than other unselected communication adapters remaining disabled as claimed by the present invention.

Applicants submit that the teaching of disabling all communication adapters, enabling the communication adapter specified by a user wherein other communication adapters remain disabled to reduce power consumption is not disclosed by the combination of Tate, Yeap, and Oh-Yang. Because Tate, Yeap, and Oh-Yang do not teach other communication adapters remaining disabled, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, and 22 are allowable. Applicants further submit that claims 5, 9, 13, 16, and 18 are allowable as depending from allowable claims.

Conclusion

As a result of the presented remarks, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for prompt allowance. Should additional information be required regarding the

traversal of the rejections of the claims enumerated above, Examiner is respectfully asked to notify Applicants of such need. If any impediments to the prompt allowance of the claims can be resolved by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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